



Colonel Gaddafi as he was

## Muammar Gaddafi

[Muammar Gaddafi](#) led a small group of junior military officers in a bloodless *coup d'état* in Libya against the pro-Imperialist King Idris on 1 September 1969. When the second annual edition of this course went out Gaddafi was still the leader of his country. In the third edition we had to note that Muammar Gaddafi was now dead, having been murdered by counter-revolutionaries, like so many others of our African Revolutionary writers.

Libya is a large African country on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, West of Egypt and East of Tunisia. One used to say that Libya was much more developed than in colonial times. But now Libya has been “underdeveloped” again in a catastrophic way.



**Gaddafi and Mandela**

We will still take Muammar Gaddafi as a writer. Writing transcends human mortality.

Gaddafi's 1975 "Green Book", and especially the part on "Democracy", is a very useful text for discussion in study circles, because it does not take bourgeois democracy for granted, but interrogates it, criticises it severely and to a considerable extent, rejects it. This document is attached.

Gaddafi was certainly an African Revolutionary Writer. In the other, much more recent piece for the New York Times, attached and linked below, Gaddafi set out a plain case for the "One-State Solution" in Palestine, which is the same in principal as South Africa's post-apartheid one-state solution ("One person one vote in a unitary state"). This document is also attached.



**Muammar Gaddafi more recently**

Muammar Gaddafi was a wise and humble Muslim man of great energy, in spite of the sorrows that he personally had to bear. He was loved by the revolutionaries of Africa.

Between the first and second versions of this introduction, Libya was bombed and invaded by forces of Britain, France and the USA. One of Gaddafi's sons and one of his grandchildren had been killed. This was on top of the daughter killed in the raid organised by Reagan and Thatcher in 1986. The Wikipedia entry on Muammar Gaddafi had been re-written to conform with Western propaganda.

Muammar Gaddafi did not retreat or run away. He stayed and faced his terrible death.

We have touched on the question of Libya before in this series, [in the item on Ruth First](#), which in turn is linked to a download from First's book on Gaddafi's Libya.

- The above is to introduce the original reading-texts: [Muammar Gaddafi, The Green Book, Part 1, on Democracy, 1975](#) and [Muammar Gaddafi, The One-State Solution, 2009](#).
- To download any of the CU courses in PDF files [please click here](#).

